

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A semiconductor futures exchange system comprising:
a virtual semiconductor fabrication facility (virtual fab) which provides information regarding fabrication of semiconductor devices in the virtual fab; and
a semiconductor futures exchange coupled to the virtual fab to receive the information, the semiconductor futures exchange offering semiconductor futures for sale based on the information.
2. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 wherein the information includes capacity contracts for the right to utilize manufacturing capacity.
3. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 wherein the information includes work in progress (WIP) of the virtual semiconductor fabrication facility.
4. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange is a semiconductor futures capacity exchange.
5. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 wherein the virtual fab includes a semiconductor foundry.
6. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 further comprising at least one entity adapted for communicating between a computer system associated with the semiconductor futures exchange and a computer system associated with the virtual semiconductor fabrication facility.
7. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 further comprising a manufacturing executing system used to facilitate production in the virtual semiconductor fabrication facility.

8. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 further comprising at least one entity associated with a specific process within the virtual semiconductor fabrication facility.
9. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 further comprising at least one entity adapted for communicating between a computer system associated with an external service provider and a computer system associated with the semiconductor futures exchange.
10. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 9, wherein the external service provider is an investor.
11. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 9, wherein the external service provider is a customer.
12. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 9, wherein the external service provider is a trader.
13. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1, wherein the virtual semiconductor fabrication facility performs a plurality of processes associated with semiconductor fabrication.
14. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 wherein the virtual fab includes a semiconductor foundry.
15. The semiconductor futures exchange system of claim 1 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange interacts with a plurality of traders.
16. A method of exchanging semiconductor futures comprising: /
providing a semiconductor futures exchange;
coupling the semiconductor futures change to a virtual fab; and
interacting with the semiconductor futures exchange through the virtual fab to trade semiconductor futures.

17. The method of claim 16 wherein the interacting with the semiconductor futures exchange relates to purchasing options on the semiconductor futures exchange.
18. The method of claim 16 wherein the interacting with the semiconductor futures exchange relates to selling options on the semiconductor futures exchange.
19. The method of claim 16 wherein a customer interacts with the futures exchange.
20. The method of claim 16 wherein a investor interacts with the futures exchange.
21. The method of claim 16 wherein a trader interacts with the futures exchange.
22. The method of claim 16 wherein the virtual fab includes a plurality of entities.
23. The method of claim 16 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange interfaces via the virtual fab with entities internal to and external to the virtual fab.
24. The method of claim 16 wherein the semiconductor futures exchange is a semiconductor capacity futures exchange.
25. The system of claim 24 wherein the semiconductor capacity futures exchange includes a trade processor for executing trades of semiconductor futures contracts through a market established by the semiconductor futures exchange.